

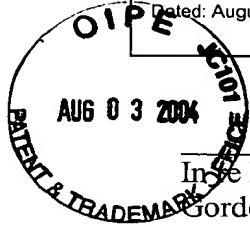
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. ER509329804US, in an envelope addressed to: MS AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: August 2, 2004

Signature:

*Elena Magliitto*  
(Elena M. Magliitto)

Docket No.: HO-P02540US1  
(PATENT)



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Gordon S. Scholler

Application No.: 09/896,429

Art Unit: 3739

Filed: June 29, 2001

Examiner: A. Farah

For: **IMPROVED APPLANATION LENS AND  
METHOD FOR OPHTHALMIC SURGICAL  
APPLICATIONS**

**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED 3-29-2004**

MS AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the Office Action mailed March 29, 2004 (Paper No. 16), in which claims 1-12 were rejected and claims 13-18 were allowed, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.

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